

13 February 1979

MEMORANDUM TO: [REDACTED] NFIB Working Group on Compartmentation
FROM: [REDACTED] Security Committee Staff
SUBJECT: Working Group for Review of Security Standards for Personnel Clearances

STAT

STAT

1. A meeting of the Security Standards Working Group was held on 12 February 1979. The DoD members (less NSA) advised that they had met separately since our last meeting and wished to present a DoD position on the task given to our Working Group. The DoD position is basically that an NFI/SLC personnel security standard, if imposed upon DoD, particularly the military services, would in effect be a separate special access program which would require management, controls, and resources which are not available and could not be afforded.

2. They questioned the need for a separate system considering that the present access controls based upon clearance levels was considered adequate for the protection of classified materials. Unlike the IC agencies which grant clearances to applicants which are based upon standards equivalent to the highest (DCID 1/14 standards) the military grants access based upon the needs of the position in which the individual is placed with only a minor number meeting the higher clearance levels.

3. The main objection to the task of defining the population needing access to NFI/SLC is the lack of identifiable marking on existing NFI plus the undetermined types and quantities to be released under the proposed new system. Existing NFI is co-mingled with other classified information and material and the users could not be determined without a major survey of each and every component and unit.

79/92

4. After long discussion in which the need for establishment of NFI security standards for the protection of intelligence sources and methods were put forth repeatedly, the DoD members felt that it would be necessary to have a meeting with you to directly discuss and clarify the tasking of our group. I will arrange a meeting of the Working Group at your convenience.

STAT

